UNDP

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

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DP/PROJECTS/7115

ENGLISH

APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF
SAUDI ARABIA

IPF:(1987-91) $4 730 000

(SAU/89/002) - Highway and Transport Development, Management and Maintenance, (Phase II)

Date of approval by the AC:[1]	24 July 1991
Expected duration:	Five years
Proposed executing agency:	United Nations
Government implementing agency:	Ministry of Communications (MOC)
Proposed UNDP contribution:	Nil
Government cost sharing:	$7 982 300 (100 per cent)
Total UNDP budget:	$7 982 300

Project background

As a result of the considerable expansion of economic activities in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the need for further development of the road transport network, its maintenance and updating, and even more importantly, its management continues to enjoy one of the higher government priorities. The Fifth Development Plan (FDP) very clearly highlights this priority and leaves the responsibility squarely in the hands of the Ministry of Communications (MOC).

The national transport strategy set by the FDP puts emphasis on the importance of a comprehensive land, air and sea transport system for economic and social development; co-ordination between various national transport agencies; improvement of the secondary and agricultural roads network; a comprehensive information base for efficient management and improvement of the performance of the transport services; encouragement of the private sector to take more active part in the sector; and special attention to the environmental issues surrounding the transportation sector. To address these concerns, the Kingdom requested UNDP assistance under the present approval.

Description of project

The long-term objective of the project is to contribute towards an efficient, economical and safe transportation system.

The immediate objectives of the project are to: (a) enhance the institutional planning

[1] This Fact Sheet reflects the status of the project/revision at the time it was approved by the Action Committee; modifications to the project/revision may have occurred subsequently.

and management capabilities within the various MOC departments and the technical capabilities of the MOC staff; (b) devise an integrated transport management system and adequately train personnel through the Transport Training Centre, mainly in training policy and methods development system-plans, general computer training plans, budgeting, implementation and evaluation, integrated transportation research programme and formulation of a research policy; and (c) establish an integrated and comprehensive management and maintenance system, a dynamic transport data bank, a geographic information system, road inventory, road resources inventory, bridge and structures inventory, hydrography data base, traffic data and collection system, laboratory tests data base management information system, and computer-aided design and drafting systems.

Inputs

UNDP will provide 21 international experts and five consultants (547 man-months); 10 UNVs (278 man-months); and eight national experts (374 man-months) such as civil engineers of various specializations, traffic engineers, system analysts, transport planners and engineers, highway maintenance experts, legal advisors, noise pollution experts, automation specialists; fellowships in planning and design of carefully structured training programmes for transportation planning and transportation economics; operations of transport data bank system; computer applications in transportation engineering; geographical information system; remote sensing techniques; traffic data collection system; rock mechanics and tunnelling; road materials quality control and testing methods; highway planning; highway design road construction; road safety; hydrological studies; road lighting; highway management; and research management; on-the-job training of counterparts through participation in the daily work of the United Nations personnel; special courses and lecture series; development of a general computer training plan which will aim at improving work efficiency and productivity; office automation, local area net working and increased use of micro and portable computers, and enhancement of computer-aided training.

Financial data

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Personnel	7 718 200
Training	250 000
Miscellaneous	14 100
Total	7 982 300

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